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**BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH**

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**ANNUAL REPORTS**

of the

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

**V. E. WHITMAN, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.**

and

**SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

**R. C. SWEET, M.A.P.H.I.**

For the Year ending  
31st DECEMBER, 1958





# BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH

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## ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

### **Medical Officer of Health**

V. E. Whitman, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Health Area Office No. 3

6, Lemon Street TRURO, Cornwall. (Telephone Truro 2202)

and

### **Senior Public Health Inspector**

R. C. SWEET, M.A.P.H.I.

Municipal Offices, FALMOUTH, Cornwall.

(Telephone Falmouth 691)

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For the Year ending  
31st DECEMBER, 1958

## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1958

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The MAYOR OF FALMOUTH (Councillor P. G. Lobb)

**Chairman :** Councillor Miss E. M. Frost, M.A.

**Vice-Chairman :** Alderman T. C. Williams  
(Resigned 8.3.1958)

Councillor F. J. Offord (From 8.3.1958)

**Aldermen :**

B. J. E. Belcher, D.F.C., A. E. Osberg.

**Councillors :**

J. Bacon (From 8.5.1958), A. V. Baker, G. V. Davey,  
N. J. Fittus, M. E. Nunn, D. E. Smith.

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## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**Medical Officer of Health :**

V. E. Whitman, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

**Senior Public Health Inspector :**

R. C. Sweet, M.A.P.H.I.

**Deputy Public Health Inspector :**

G. Barnard

**Clerk :** Miss L. M. Dawe.

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the Health and Sanitation of the Borough of Falmouth during 1958.

The year was a healthy one. Apart from 398 cases of measles there was no epidemic disease. The feature of the year so far as I was concerned was the vaccination of large numbers of children, and others, against poliomyelitis. The net result of our work, over two thirds of the children protected by at least 2 doses of vaccine, may not appear spectacular but this meant an enormous amount of work which could not have been achieved without the wholehearted co-operation of the general practitioners in the town and a great deal of extra effort on the part of my staff. A great deal remains to be done and a considerable backlog, especially immunisation against diphtheria, has accumulated, but the position now achieved is at least as good as the national average and probably a great deal better. We have been so busy doing the vaccination that sorting of records and production of accurate statistics has not been possible.

Mr. Sweet's report must be read in detail. I feel that all who have been associated with the Health Committee can feel proud of the achievements of his department during the year. I share his concern at the amount of overcrowding, most of it due to children of tenants growing up, marrying and themselves producing families for whom there are no houses.

I am glad once more to have the opportunity of recording my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their consideration and support throughout the year and to Mr. Sweet and his staff for their loyal co-operation.

I have the honour to be

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

**V. E. WHITMAN,**

Medical Officer of Health.

## FALMOUTH

### Statistics and Social Condition 1958

(1957 figures in brackets)

Area in acres	...	...	1,893	
Estimated population 1958	...	...	16,570	(16,540)
Inhabited houses 1958	...	...	5,181	
Inhabited houses 1931	...	...	2,916	
Rateable value	...	...	£269,396	
Product of penny rate	...	...	£1,040.12.5	
Houses built or building since 1945	...	...	963	(868)
Families on waiting list for houses	...	...	534	(557)
Rainfall 1958	...	...	52.5	(41.1)
Rainfall, average of past 80 years	...	...	43.9	
Sunshine 1958	...	...	1494.3	(1723.6)
Sunshine, average of past 80 years	...	...	1697.8	

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Live Births

Males	115 (135)	Females	128 (112)	Total	243 (247)
Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor	...			1.08	( 1.08)
Birth rate, per 1,000 population—Falmouth	...			15. 9	(16. 1)
Birth rate, per 1,000 population—England & Wales	...			16. 4	(16. 1)

### Still Births

Males	2 (3)	Females	(1) (5)	Total	3 (8)
Still birth rate, per 1,000 all births—Falmouth	...			12. 2	(31. 4)
Still birth rate, per 1,000 all births—England & Wales...	...			21. 6	(22. 4)

### Deaths

Males	108 (100)	Females	116 (124)	Total	224 (22)
Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor—					
Falmouth	...	...	...	0.88	( 0.91)
Death rate per 1,000 population—Falmouth	...			11. 9	(12. 3)
Death rate per 1,000 population—England & Wales	...			11. 7	(11. 5)

### Deaths of Infants under 1 year

Males	2 (1)	Females	1 (1)	Total	3 (2)
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births—Falmouth	...			12. 3	( 8. 1)
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births—					
England & Wales	...	...	...	22. 6	(23. 0)

### Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks

Males	(2) (1)	Females	0 (1)	Total	2 (2)
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### BIRTH AND DEATH RATES SINCE 1936

Year	Birth Rate		Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
1936	...	12.8	14.4	46.2
1937	...	15.3	14.3	52.0
1938	...	12.3	13.6	59.5
1939	...	13.7	14.8	58.5
1940	...	13.1	13.4	49.8
1941	...	16.5	12.6	36.9
1942	...	16.2	13.6	41.7
1943	...	18.6	14.6	56.6
1944	...	20.4	13.9	53.3
1945	...	20.0	14.1	16.5
1946	...	20.4	13.5	33.6
1947	...	18.6	12.7	23.0
1948	...	15.6	12.9	26.4
1949	...	16.4	14.6	46.9
1950	...	14.8	11.1	33.3
1951	...	15.1	10.8	33.2
1952	...	14.4	9.5	26.3
1953	...	15.9	10.6	15.9
1954	...	14.9	12.1	30.6
1955	...	14.9	11.9	8.5
1956	...	17.0	10.9	15.4
1957	...	16.1	12.3	8.1
1958	...	15.9	11.9	12.3

### ANALYSIS OF CAUSE OF DEATH

			1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	2	3	2	—	—
Tuberculosis, other	...	...	—	—	—	1	—
Syphilitic diseases	...	...	1	1	1	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	...	...	1	—	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	—	1	—	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	7	8	10	5	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	7	4	5	6	6
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	4	6	2	3	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	3	1	2	2	2
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	21	26	13	28	26
Leukaemia and aleukaemia	...	...	2	—	2	—	1
Diabetes	...	...	1	4	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	35	40	30	41	29



			1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	31	24	28	30	33
Hypertension and heart disease	...	...	10	9	3	7	10
Other heart disease	...	...	42	43	49	52	49
Other circulatory disease	...	...	6	4	4	8	7
Influenza	...	...	1	2	2	9	—
Pneumonia	...	...	2	5	9	5	7
Bronchitis	...	...	12	8	9	4	4
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	5	5	1	1	1
Ulcer of stomach—Duodenum	...	...	2	1	5	—	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	—	—	1	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	5	2	3	—	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	3	1	3	2	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	...	...	2	—	—	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	20	22	11	9	19
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	1	—	—	1	2
All other accidents	...	...	4	3	7	5	6
Suicide	...	...	—	2	4	3	4
Homicide and operations of war	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
All causes	...	...	230	225	206	224	224

### DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS

		M	F	Total
0+	...	2 (1)	1 (1)	3 (2)
1—4	...	1 (0)	1 (0)	2 (0)
5—14	...	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (1)
15—24	...	0 (2)	0 (1)	0 (3)
25—44	...	5 (5)	2 (4)	7 (9)
45—64	...	25(25)	18(15)	43(40)
65—74	...	34(30)	31(35)	65(65)
75+	...	41(37)	63(67)	104(104)

75.4% of all deaths were of persons over 65 years of age.

46.4% of all deaths were of persons over 75 years of age.

### PERINATAL MORTALITY, 1958

	Population mid 1958	Still Births	Live Births	Deaths within 7 days	Perinatal Mortality
Falmouth	16,570	3	243	2	20.3
Penryn	4,330	6	72	2	102.6
Truro City	13,520	5	170	2	40.0
Truro Rural	26,590	11	377	2	33.5
Health Area	61,010	25	862	8	37.2



Cornwall: Perinatal Mortality 1958, 36.8

England and Wales: Perinatal Mortality 1958, 35.1

The infant mortality rate was again very much lower than that for England and Wales. In the 25—44 year group, 4 of the male deaths were due to accidents and there were 2 deaths, both male, due to accident in the 45—64 year group. Among the 43 deaths in this age group 13 were due to cancer, 7 males (4 cancer of the lung) and 6 females, and there were 8 due to coronary thrombosis, 7 males, 1 female. There is nothing particularly alarming in such figures but if there is to be any reduction in the death rate these are the conditions which must be tackled.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICE

### 1. CLINICS

Infant Welfare. Attendances 1,819 (2,559). Sessions 50 (98). Average per session 36.4 (26.0).

Dental	Expectant and Nursing Mothers	Pre-School Children	School Children
Inspected	25 (29)	52 (80)	3,012(3,705)
Offered Treatment	25 (29)	52 (71)	1,980(2,401)
Treated	25 (29)	52 (71)	1,097(1,073)
Attendances	129(173)	138(176)	2,419(2,247)

### 2. AMBULANCE SERVICE

Owing to reorganisation and regrouping of ambulances separate figures of work done by the ambulances in Falmouth are not available. It is quite definite however that all calls made upon the service have received prompt and efficient attention.

### 3. HOME HELP SERVICE

Help was given in their own homes to 13 (13) maternity and 80 (95) other cases.

The calls on this service in Falmouth continue to decline. This, in my opinion, is due entirely to the fact that the majority of those in need of help either cannot, or will not, pay the amounts assessed.

### 4. AFTER-CARE GRANTS

A grant of free extra nourishment was made on the recommendation of the Chest Physician to two sufferers from tuberculosis.

### 5. LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratory in Truro examined and reported on 16 samples of ice cream during the year.

## 6. HOME NURSING, MIDWIFERY &amp; HEALTH VISITING

	1955	1956	1957	1958
General cases nursed ...	602	683	268	296
General nursing visits ...	6,375	8,115	9,928	10,923
Midwifery cases ...	169	169	165	152
Midwifery visits ...	4,240	3,783	3,015	1,294
Ante-natal visits ...	1,787	1,595	1,161	1,294
Health visits to children				
under 5 years ...	8,174	7,786	7,203	9,375
Visits to elderly people ...	3,923	5,461	5,731	6,866

Miss E. J. Jennings, Assistant County Nursing Officer, reports:—

**District Nurses Flats**

10, Florence Terrace. After the necessary alterations had been almost completed 3 nurses moved into the 2 self contained flats. They are happy in them.

**Health Visiting.** The health visitors are delighted with the work of the Falmouth Old Peoples Welfare Committee. The chiropody service is a boon to many and fulfils a long felt need. The recently started Meals on Wheels service is also doing good work. The health visitors have continued to do much of the preparatory work for anti-poliomyelitis vaccination in addition to their routine work.

**Ante-Natal Relaxation Classes** were started in February. They are informal and informative and are held weekly at the Infant Welfare Centre. The health visitors and the midwives add their contribution to the physiotherapist's teaching. 79 expectant mothers attended the classes.

**District Nursing and Midwifery**

Nursing visits to the elderly have increased by over 1,000 visits and although the number of babies delivered in their own homes has fallen the number of ante-natal visits per case had increased. Early and regular ante-natal supervision prevents major disorders and can eliminate tragedies.

**PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Age Group			Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles	
			M	F	M	F	M	F
0— 1	...		—	—	1	—	9	10
1— 2	...		1	—	1	—	36	37
3— 4	...		—	—	1	3	38	52

Age Group		Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles	
		M	F	M	F	M	F
5—9	...	3	1	5	2	100	107
10—14	...	—	—	—	1	2	3
15—24	...	1	—	—	1	—	1
25+	...	—	—	—	—	2	1
Totals		5	1	8	7	187	211
		6		15		398	

		Acute Pneumonia		Puerperal Pyrexia
		M	F	F
0—5	...	1	—	—
5—14	...	—	—	—
15—44	...	—	—	3
45—64	...	1	1	—
65+	...	1	2	—
Total		3	3	3

The epidemic of measles was the usual biennial. It was mild with few complications.

The 3 cases of puerperal pyrexia were due to intercurrent conditions which would have attracted no attention had they not occurred during the puerperium.

### Poliomyelitis

Children under 15		15—25	Expectant Mothers	Others	Total
2 doses	3 doses	2 doses	2 doses	2 doses	
2,528	138	94	113	222	3,095

No case of the disease was notified during the year.

### Diphtheria

There were no cases of diphtheria in 1958. During the year 159 children under 5 and 7 older children were immunised. 120 received booster doses.

On the 31st December, 1958 there were 905 children between the ages of 1 year and 5 years in Falmouth and of these 543 or 60.0% had been immunised.

The decline in the numbers immunised, all with triple antigen since 1956, is due almost entirely to the accent which has been given to vaccination against poliomyelitis during the year. Now that the majority of children have been vaccinated the back log of immunisation is being tackled and the protection rate will rise.

**Smallpox**

There were no cases of this disease during 1958.

	Under 1	1+	2-4	5-14	15+	Total
Number vaccinated	33	47	14	14	24	132
Number re-vaccinated	—	—	4	9	43	56

**Tuberculosis**

Age Group		New Cases				Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
— 5	...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5-14	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-24	...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-44	...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-64	...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		6	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
Total		9		1		—		—	

On the 31st December, 1958 there were 152 (155) cases of tuberculosis on the register of which 138 (142) were pulmonary.

The Mass Radiography Unit visited Falmouth during February for three days. 561 school children were examined but no new case of disease was discovered among them.

At the end of 1958, 1,529 children had been vaccinated with B.C.G. Of this number 322 were contacts of known cases of tuberculosis and 1,207 were dealt with under the scheme for school leavers.

**BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**  
**For the Year ending 31st December, 1958**

---

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors

of the Borough of Falmouth.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my report for 1958.

My report deals with four matters, Sanitary Circumstances, Housing, Food and Cleansing.

The results achieved under Sanitary Circumstances indicate that continued improvement is being effected and a watchful eye is being kept on new work.

Housing includes Slum Clearance activities which must be continued for many years ahead. The figures for overcrowding give rise for dismay and show that more houses must be provided for the increasing population.

The number of Food Premises are disproportionately large for a town of 17,000 population until it is appreciated that Falmouth is becoming increasingly popular as a sea-side holiday resort. This being so I am dissatisfied at the number of inspections which it has been possible to make. With the existing staff, however, other work would suffer in order to remedy this. The duties of inspection are not made easier by the defect in the Food and Drugs Act which does not provide for the compulsory registration of food premises.

The Cleansing Services are particularly satisfactory. The introduction of rear loading refuse vehicles is a decided advance on former methods.

The continued interest and support of the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee is appreciated. I also value the advice and co-operation of Dr. Whitman and acknowledge, most readily the assistance of my own staff particularly Mr. G. Barnard and Miss L. M. Dawe.

I have the honour to be

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. C. SWEET,

Senior Public Health Inspector.



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Inspections made:—

### **Dwelling Houses**

	Inspections
Inspected for housing defects	... 368
Inspected in connection with Slum Clearance	... 168
Inspected after occurrence of Infectious Disease	... 21
Rooms disinfected and disinfested	... 285
Inspections of Waterclosets	... 14
Inspections of Common Passages	... 38
Inspections of new houses	... 141

### **Drainage**

Sewerage Inspections	... 53
Visits to works in progress	... 753
Water Tests applied to drains	... 121
Smoke Tests applied to drains	... 100
New drains approved after test	... 98
New drains disapproved	... 9
Old drains tested	... 12
New interceptors fixed	... 55
New gullies fixed	... 260

### **Miscellaneous Inspections and Activities**

Cinemas and Music Halls	... 4
Public Conveniences	... 314
Refuse Tips	... 209
Rodent Control	... 2,256
Visits to Salvage Depot	... 52
Visits to Council Houses	... 44
Visits to Swanvale Sewerage Farm	... 31
Visits to Caravan Sites	... 46
Visits to Farms	... 11
Visits to Piggeries	... 43
Visits to Pet Shops	... 2
Visits regarding Local Land Charges	... 47
Visits to Aged and Infirm Persons	... 20
Visits to Seaman's Lodging Houses	... 4
Visits regarding Mass Radiography	... 6
Inspections regarding emptying of cesspools	... 34
Inspections of Swanpool	... 39
Inspections regarding Shops Act	... 81
Inspections of Beaches	... 12
Inspections of Allotments	... 9
Inspections with Medical Officer of Health	... 2
District Inspections	... 78
Interviews with Owners, etc.,	... 99
Interviews with Chairman	... 25

	Inspections
Interviews with applicants for Council houses ...	34
Interviews and Inspections regarding Overcrowding ...	16
Interviews regarding Collection of Refuse ...	31
Interviews with Farmers and Milk Purveyors ...	31
Interviews with Owners of Hotels ...	23
Interviews with Builders ...	68
Interviews with Architects ...	20
Interviews with Solicitors ...	9
Interviews regarding Shops Act ...	24
Attendances at Committees ...	61
Local Land Charges Supplementary Enquiries ...	283
The Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts and Housing Acts Enquiries ...	7
Deposited Plans examined ...	193
Inspections regarding Deposited Plans ...	61
Total Inspections made ...	6,913
Preliminary Notices ...	138
Statutory Notices served ...	17
Certificates of Disrepair granted ...	4
Notices of proposal to issue Certificate of Disrepair ...	7

### Complaints

The following complaints were received and dealt with during the year:—

Obstructed sewers and drains ...	76
Unsatisfactory housing conditions ...	39
Overcrowding ...	4
Water Supply ...	2
Insect Pests ...	34
Offensive accumulations ...	9
Obstructed Watercourse ...	1
Camping Sites ...	2
Piggeries ...	2
Rodent Infestation ...	235
Miscellaneous ...	27

Improvements effected:—

### Dwelling Houses

Roofs repaired ...	10
Eaves gutters and fall pipes repaired ...	12
Walls repaired ...	23
Windows repaired ...	22
Verminous rooms disinfested ...	106
Floors relaid or repaired ...	6
Doors repaired ...	2
Defective ceilings repaired ...	9
Defective flues and fireplaces repaired ...	4



**Waterclosets, etc.**

Defective waterclosets repaired	...	6
Defective hopper pans replaced by wash-downs	...	3
Cesspool emptyings	...	842
New cesspools built	...	—
Cesspools abolished	...	28

**Drainage**

Soil pipes repaired	...	2
New sinks provided	...	1
Drains repaired or reconstructed	...	6
Obstructed drains cleansed, repaired or relaid	...	25
Obstructed gullies cleansed	...	9
Obstructed interceptors cleansed	...	27
Sewers cleansed or repaired	...	4
Premises connected to main sewer	...	30
Siphon traps removed	...	1
Obstructed watercourses cleansed	...	—

**Water Supply**

Water services repaired	...	—
Flush cisterns repaired	...	5
Water fountains repaired	...	—

**Miscellaneous**

Offensive accumulations removed	...	18
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**Analysis of Drainage Complaints**

Obstructed Interceptors	...	27
Obstructed drains	...	25
Obstructed sewers	...	4
Obstructed gullies	...	9
Defective drains	...	6
No nuisance	...	5

**Water Supply**

The following report has been supplied by Mr. B. J. Sweeney, M.I.Mun.E., A.R.I.C.S., A.M.Inst.H.E., Borough Surveyor and Water Engineer:—

“ The Falmouth Water Undertaking is Municipally owned.

The source of supply is from gathering grounds of gravel and peat sub-soil from which the water flows into two main impounding and settling reservoirs and two supplementary pools.

The Sedimentation and Coagulation Tank under construction at the time of the last Report, was completed and commissioned in October, 1958.

There is now pre-filtration treatment consisting of coagulation by aluminum sulphate forming on a nucleus of powdered chalk.

This treatment is followed by filtration through sand pressure filters after which, the water is chlorinated to achieve and maintain a standard of bacterial purity.

Lime is also added to give the water in supply a slightly alkaline reaction.

Bacteriological analyses are carried out monthly on samples of water in supply by the County Public Health Service. Raw water is also analysed quarterly and chemical analyses taken at regular intervals.

During the period under review, the water in supply has been entirely satisfactory in quality and quantity.

In 1958, the average daily consumption has been 1,257,200 gallons. The number of domestic and trade supplies equals 5,602."

### **Sewerage**

The whole of the sewerage of the Borough falls to three sea outfalls at:— Middle Point, Gyllyngvase and Pennance Point.

It is necessary to raise the sewage to higher levels at North Parade, Prince of Wales Pier, Riviera Hotel and at the rear of Swanpool. This is achieved by means of sewage ejectors at these points supplemented at the Prince of Wales Pier by pumps.

The sewage from Penryn, is received into the Falmouth Council's sewer in Trescobeas Road, where it flows via the Swanvale Valley trunk sewer to the Swanvale Works then to sea at Pennance Point.

During the period under review, houses at the rear of Swanpool and in Trescobeas Road have been connected to the new main sewers. The cesspools to which they previously discharged have been emptied, disinfected and filled in.

The Council again gave consideration to the covering of the open channels to the sewage storage tanks at Swanvale and after lengthy discussion resolved that no action be taken.

### **Drainage**

During the year, 98 new drains were tested, first by means of Water Test, then by Smoke Test and all finally approved.

In addition, 153 yards of 6" and 25 yards 9" sewer; 315 yards 4" and 249 yards 6" surface water drains at Conway Road, Old Hill Housing Estate, Tregenver Estate and West Rise were tested and approved.

Thirty premises connected to 28 cesspools were connected to the main sewer, in one case at the expense of the owner and the remainder at the expense of the Council.

76 complaints were received regarding drainage, the improvements effected are shown on page 14.

### **Closet Accommodation**

With the exception of a very small number of Pail Closets and Privy Middens in outside areas, all are on the Water Carriage system and the majority are connected to the Council's sewer.

### **Vermin and Insect Pests**

There were no infestations of bed bugs reported; fleas are the most common form of vermin and 10 houses were disinfested.

Seven premises were treated for cockroaches: five treated for house flies; 5 for ants and 15 Wasp Nests were destroyed.

### **Rodent Control**

In connection with the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, 213 cases were dealt with, 154 in respect of brown rats and 59 in respect of mice. There were no infestations of black rats.

The baits used for prebaiting were 48 lbs. Sausage Rusk and 788 lbs. Oatmeal and for poisoning, Arsenic, Zinc Phosphide, Antu and Warfarin were the chief agents.

Based on the actual "takes of poison" it is estimated that 1,290 rats and 1,018 mice were killed. 358 dead rodents were recovered.

Two sewer maintenance treatments were carried out during the year when 59 manholes were baited. The estimated kill was 26. The value of this maintenance treatment cannot be over emphasised for when the first treatment was carried out in 1945, the estimated kill was 2,211.

Co-operation has been maintained with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Infestation Control Division and the Cornwall Agricultural Committee, Pest Department.

One full-time Rodent Officer was employed and methods of treatment were strictly in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's recommendations, including poisoning.

No charges were made for treatment carried out at dwelling houses.

Particulars of the work carried out during the year are as follows:—

Complaints	...	235
Inspections	...	2,256
Premises treated by poison	...	214
Premises trapped	...	—
Premises gassed	...	—
Manholes baited	...	59
Pre-baits laid	...	4,290
Poison-baits laid	...	1,094

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food ceases to carry out Rodent Control on agricultural land in March, 1959, but the service virtually ceased in the year under review as the Ministry were not desirous of renewing contracts.

This service has been made available by the Council and a charge made based on the actual cost of the work plus the usual on-costs.

### **Shops Act**

The Council are responsible for the administration of the Shops Act, 1950 and during the year made an Order under Section 40 suspending the weekly half-holiday closing of shops engaged in the business of Fancy Goods and Souvenirs and Tobacconists during the period from Second of June to the Thirtieth of September, 1958.

An Order was also made under Section 41 extending the closing hours of shops engaged in the business referred to above, to 9.30 p.m., during the months of June, July, August and September.

Consideration was given to the making of an Order under Section 51 of the Shops Act, 1950 relating to Sunday Trading and a postal ballot was taken. As the approval of not less than two-thirds of the occupiers of the shops to be affected was not obtained the proposed Order could not be made.

The inspection of shops and offices regarding sanitary accommodation was continued during the year and 81 inspections made. 3 of these were in connection with closing hours.

Two complaints were received and a number of contraventions dealt with.

### **Control of Moveable Dwellings**

There are six licensed sites with accommodation for 194 caravans, of these 115 are residential; one of the sites is reserved exclusively for camping and no caravans are permitted.



Five of the sites have sanitary conveniences and washing facilities and all are provided with main water supply and dust-bins.

There are also 12 licensed caravans in the area. One application to station moveable dwellings was refused, both by the Council and by the Town and Country Planning Department of the Cornwall County Council.

Two of the 12 licensed caravans have been refused planning consent.

### **Cinemas and Music Halls**

These places of Public Entertainment were inspected during the year and gave no cause for complaint.

Under the new General Conditions of Licence issued by the Cornwall County Council it is no longer necessary for a Sanitary Certificate to be granted when an application is made for a Licence.

### **Pet Animals Act, 1951**

One application was received for a licence to keep a Pet Shop which was granted.

## **FACTORIES ACT, 1937 — 1. INSPECTIONS**

for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	27	71	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	48	128	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	3	11	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>...</b> 78	210	1	—

## 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Remi- died	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventila- tion (S.4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) insufficient	3	3	—	3
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	1
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	2	2	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3</b>

## OUTWORK

### Sections 110 and 111

Nature of Works	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of Out- workers in Aug. list required by Sect. 110 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in send- ing lists to the Council	No. of prose- cutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instan- ces of work in unwhole- some premises	Notices served	Prose- cutions
Wearing apparel, making, etc.	1	—	—	—	—	—

## HOUSING

During the year, the Local authority built 59 houses which brings the total of Council houses to 1,315. 36 houses were built privately.

### Slum Clearance

(1) Beacon Street and Prince Street

The premises acquired under the Borough of Falmouth (Beacon Street and Prince Street) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1956, and two premises acquired by the Council for highway improvements, have been demolished.

(2) Chapel Terrace, Koh-i-Nor Place, Smithick Hill and Princes Place

The above area referred to in the report for 1957, was the subject of a Public Inquiry in April this year. Resulting from the Inquiry, the Minister confirmed the Compulsory Purchase Order without modification.

(3) Mount Zion Cottages, Gyllyng Street, Mill Row, Swanpool Street—Oslers Yard

The Council resolved to make Clearance Orders, which were confirmed without modification.

(4) Smithick Hill, Downing's Cottages, Rose Cottages and Well Lane

The Council resolved to secure demolition by means of Compulsory Purchase Orders, which the Minister has confirmed.

### Housing Acts, 1936 and 1957 and Public Health Act, 1936

As a result of informal action, repairs have been carried out to 109 houses and to 5 after formal action.

Six Demolition Orders were made under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957, one of the premises having been demolished during the year.

### Overcrowding

(a) No. of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	148
No. of families dwelling therein	148
No. of persons dwelling therein	699
(b) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported	23
(c) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved	33



No. of persons concerned	151
(d) Particulars of any case in which a dwelling has again become overcrowded	None
(e) Any other particulars with respect to condition in relation to overcrowding	

The Council's policy of giving priority to re-housing from Slum Clearance Areas has adversely influenced the abatement of overcrowding. There is insufficient additional accommodation to meet the needs of young families.

### Rent Act, 1957

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair received	...	9
No. of decisions not to issue certificates	...	1
No. of decisions to issue Certificates	...	7
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	...	4
(b) in respect of all defects	...	3
No. of Undertakings given by Landlords	...	4
No. of Certificates issued	...	4

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Food Premises in the area:—

	Number	Inspections
Bakers and Confectioners	... 25	51
Butchers	... 17	55
Cafes, Restaurants, Snack Bars, etc.	... 35	156
Canteens	... 2	4
Clubs	... 10	4
Dairies	... 2	7
Fish Dealers	... 4	35
Fish Fryers	... 7	16
Greengrocers	... 14	14
Grocers	... 40	112
Hotels, Boarding Houses, etc.	... 191	71
Hospitals and Nursing Homes	... 4	4
Hostels	... 1	4
Ice Cream (Registered)	... 54	59
Licensed Premises	... 27	35
Meat Depot	... 1	12
Miscellaneous	... 7	12
Pressed, pickled and preserved meat products...	... 7	18
Sausage Manufacturers (Registered)	... 4	12
School Canteens	... 12	11
Vehicles	... 6	49

## Ice Cream

- (i) Premises registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

There is one registered manufacturer who uses the heat treatment method. 42 premises are registered for the sale of ice cream and 1 for the storage of ice cream.

- (ii) Premises exempt from registration.

A total of 33 hotels, restaurants and cinemas sell ice cream. There are 2 manufacturers using the cold mix method.

- (iii) Sampling.

During the year 16 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. 7 were certified as Grade 1, 6 as Grade 2 and 3 as Grade 3.

## Milk

All milk sold in the Borough is Pasteurised, Tuberculin Tested or Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised).

There are 26 registered distributors, 15 dealer's licences have been granted for T.T. (Pasteurised) milk, two for Tuberculin Tested and three for Pasteurised, besides 3 Supplementary for Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) and one for Tuberculin Tested.

## Complaints relating to Food

9 complaints were received; of these 2 warranted no further action. The other 7 were reported to the Health Committee and in each case warning letters were sent to the firms responsible.

## Condemned Food

220 Certificates were issued in connection with unsound food, the following being condemned:—

Beef	...	49-lbs.
Sausages	...	34-lbs.
Fish	...	70-lbs.
Dried Fruit	...	92-lbs.
Miscellaneous Foods	...	132-lbs.
Canned Milk	...	57-lbs.
Canned Vegetables	...	183-lbs.
Canned Meat	...	1,099-lbs.
Canned Fruit	...	450-lbs.
Miscellaneous Canned Foods	...	69-lbs.
		<hr/>
		2,235-lbs.
		<hr/>

No special examination of stocks or consignments of food were necessary.

The method of disposal of condemned food is collection by the Council and final disposal by burial at the Council's controlled tip.

### Food and Drug Samples

The Cornwall County Council are responsible for sampling under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and Mr. H. E. Rundle, Senior Sampling Officer, Weights and Measures Department, has submitted the following report:—

Article Sampled	Number Taken	Genuine	Sub-Standard
Apricot Jam	...	1	—
Bramble Jelly	...	1	—
Butter	...	3	—
Butter Drops	...	1	—
Buttered Cheese Spread	...	1	—
Buttermint Toffee Rolls	...	1	—
Cornish Pasty	...	21	13
Custard Powder	...	2	—
Dairy Cream	...	1	—
Dandelion and Burdock (Drink)	...	1	—
Danish Cream	...	1	—
Full Cream Milk Block	...	1	—
Ice Cream	...	1	—
Lard	...	4	—
Lemonade Powder	...	1	—
Lemon Juice	...	1	—
Malt Vinegar	...	1	—
Milk	...	28	—
Mincemeat	...	2	—
Olive Oil	...	1	—
Orange Drink	...	1	—
Orange and Lemon Slices	...	1	—
Pork Brawn	...	1	—
Pork Sausages	...	4	—
Somerset Cream (Sterilised)	...	1	—
Strawberry Jam	...	1	—
Sweetened Lemonade Powder	...	1	—
Table Cream	...	1	—
Table Jelly	...	1	—
White Pepper	...	1	—
Totals	...	87	8

The only samples which caused adverse comment from the County Analyst were eight of Cornish Pasties. There is no standard under the Food and Drugs Act for this article of food and it is in the same category as so many other foods in that the Analyst can fix a standard, which, in the absence of anything to the contrary, is binding in the Courts. He has expressed the opinion that a Cornish Pasty should contain 20% meat in the fill of the article and 10% of the whole pasty. The eight which gave rise to complaint failed to reach this content for meat. Further samples later in respect of some of the manufacturers showed there was an improvement but the position will be carefully watched in future. On three samples of milk it was found that they were described as 'Fresh Milk' although they were in fact Tuberculin Tested and should have been so described as no 'Fresh Milk' can now be sold in the area.

### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Public Conveniences in the Borough are:—  
Accommodation

Site	Females	Males	
Greenbank Gardens	1 W.C.	1 W.C.	2 Urinal Stalls
*Prince of Wales Pier	7 W.C's	4 W.C's	9 Urinal Stalls
*Webber Street	5 W.C's	Nil	Nil
*Moor	Nil	3 W.C's	14 Urinal Stalls
*Custom House Quay	4 W.C's	2 W.C's	5 Urinal Stalls
Castle Hill	Nil	1 W.C.	2 Urinal Stalls
*Castle Drive	2 W.C's	1 W.C.	2 Urinal Stalls
*Cliff Road	2 W.C's	1 W.C.	2 Urinal Stalls
*Gyllyngvase Beach	10 W.C's	4 W.C's	10 Urinal Stalls
Cemetery	1 W.C.	1 W.C.	3 Urinal Stalls
*Swanpool Beach	3 W.C's	2 W.C's	1 Urinal Stall
*Kimberley Park	1 W.C.	1 W.C.	2 Urinal Stalls
*Gyllyngdune Gardens	2 W.C's	1 W.C.	3 Urinal Stalls
Recreation Ground	4 W.C's	2 W.C's	6 Urinal Stalls

\* Washing facilities available.

All these conveniences are cleansed daily, four have a Care-taker for 9 hours every week-day; two are attended in the season only.

The new Conveniences at the Prince of Wales Pier were opened on 26th July, 1958.

314 visits have been made to the various conveniences and the Income for the year ending 31st March, 1959 (excluding Piers)

was £1,061.5s.7d. and Expenditure £6,016.18s.8d. Piers Conveniences Income £305.3s.5d. and Expenditure £1,884.19s.10d.

The Council approved in principle the provision of shower baths in two Public Conveniences. Final plans have yet to be approved.

## CLEANSING SERVICES

### Cesspools

There are 142 premises connected to 124 cesspools; in addition five caravan sites and one camping site are each served by cesspools and in all there are 131. 78 of these are regularly emptied by the Council's Cesspool Emptyer free of charge. The other 53 are constructed on the soakaway system and are emptied when required.

Two men are employed and a 750 gallon capacity Bedford Cesspool Emptyer is used.

The contents of the Emptyer are disposed of at two points in the Borough. At the request of the Borough Surveyor, the third emptying point previously used, has been discontinued.

Mileage, 1957	...	...	7,236
Mileage, 1958	...	...	8,348

### Refuse Collection

A twice weekly collection of House Refuse was carried out and refuse from the shops in the main street collected daily.

In all 639,850 calls were made during the year.

Three vehicles are employed on collection and the total mileage covered was 19,020 miles.

Two vehicles are staffed by a driver and three ashbinmen and the Karrier 'Dual-Tip' by a driver and four fillers.

Absence caused by sickness amounted to 45 weeks.

Due to mechanical failures and for the purpose of inspection and maintenance, the three refuse collection vehicles were not available for 28½ working days.

The Diesel powered Karrier Gamecock 18 cub. yds. 'Dual-Tip' Refuse Collection vehicle, the purchase of which was referred to in my report for 1957, was delivered and commenced collection on 1st April.

During the year a talk was given to the Chamber of Commerce about Refuse Collection and Disposal.



### Refuse Disposal

All refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping at the Council's Tip at Trescobeas.

A Bristol Angledozer and an Aveling Barford Dumper are used for disposal purposes.

The number of loads of refuse disposed of is as follows:—

Commer	...	1,334
Karrier	...	1,058
Karrier 'Dual-Tip'	...	755
Seddon	...	578
Other Council vehicles	...	73
Hired Transport	...	22

This represents approximately 6,838 tons.

### Salvage

The salvage of waste paper has unfortunately been discontinued as it is an entirely uneconomical proposition.

6 tons 4 cwt. 1 qr. of mixed tins were sold for £24.16s.0d.

## COST OF CLEANSING SERVICES

	1958/9			1957/8		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<b>Refuse Collection</b>						
Labour	...	5,150	14 4	4,695	17 9	
Transport	...	3,936	12 7	3,906	18 11	
Administration and Central Charges		631	0 0	543	0 0	
Plant, equipment etc.	...	23	4 5	11	12 11	
Revenue Contribution Capital	...	—	— —	475	0 0	
		£9,741	11 4	£9,632	9 7	
<b>Income</b>						
Hire of Vehicle	...	64	0 0	3	10 0	
Repayment	...		11 0			
		£64	11 0	£3	10 0	
<b>Refuse Disposal</b>						
Labour	...	1,059	13 7	1,255	7 10	
Transport	...	—		—		
Administration and Central Charges		264	0 0	278	0 0	
Plant, equipment, buildings, land	...	820	0 8	1,333	15 8	
		£2,143	14 3	£2,867	3 6	

Income		1958/9	1957/8
Hire of Plant	...	—	—
Sale of Salvage	...	24 16 0	179 15 6
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		£24 16 0	£179 15 6
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Cesspool Emptying			
Labour	...	564 14 3	478 9 7
Transport	...	1,103 17 7	1,108 18 11
Administration and Central Charges		184 0 0	149 0 0
Equipment, etc.	...	138 11 10	27 3 4
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		£1,991 3 8	£1,763 11 10
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Income			
Hire of Vehicle	...	£42 10 0	£74 0 0

### COMPARISON OF COSTS

These figures are based upon the Public Cleansing Costing Returns for 1957-58 published by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

		Falmouth 1958/59	Falmouth 1957/58	Sea-side Holiday resorts Non-County Boroughs 1957/58 average
<b>Net Cost per Ton</b>				
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Collection	...	26 6	28 6	38 4
Disposal	...	5 5	7 7	5 3
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	31 11	36 1	43 7
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net Cost per 1,000 Population:</b>				
		£	£	£
Collection	...	548	551	618
Disposal	...	113	146	88
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	661	697	706
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net Cost per 1,000 premises</b>				
		£	£	£
Collection	...	1,560	1,594	1,673
Disposal	...	320	423	238
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	1,880	2,017	1,911
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>



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